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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION
Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine

Forest Insect Laboratory
445 U. S. Court House
Portland, Oregon
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To: Project Directors - 1953 Oregon Spruce Budworm Control Project

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Oregon State Board of Forestry
Salem, Oregon

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From: R. L. Furniss, In Charge, Portland Laboratory, by J. M. Whiteside

Subject: Report No. 5 - Technical Phases of the 1953 Oregon Spruce Budworm Control Project

During the past week the Biologists and Insect Checkers found encouraging signs of budworm larval and tree development. As expected, one or two days of warm weather early in the week brought about these long awaited changes. On June 11, the first budworms to reach the 4th instar were found on the Johnson Creek Unit. From now on it is hoped that larval and tree development will continue to accelerate to the point where spraying operations can be started.

A brief summary of conditions on the control units during the period June 7-13 is as follows:

I. Spruce Budworm Larval Development

District I - Santiam Unit: No observations were made on the unit last week. Observations and collections will start on June 16 when 3 men will be available and trained for work on this unit. It is felt that conditions have changed but little since our last report.

District II - Dale and Starkey Units: On the Dale Unit, the most advanced development is found along the bottom of the North Fork John Day river canyon. The following collections have been made in this area:

Block	Point	Elev.	Date	Instars 2nd	3rd	4th
D-11	CP-2	3400	6/2	36%	64%	0
			6/9	13%	81%	0
			6/12	7%	91%	2%

At 4300 feet along Oriental Creek in block D-6, the bud caps are being pushed off and a few needles are appearing but at 5200 feet, south of Pearson L.O. in block D-5, the buds are still quite tight.

On the Starkey Unit, collections of budworm larvae have not been made above 4400 feet because there have not been enough leave the needles and enter the buds to warrant collections. Above 4700 feet the larvae are still in the 2nd instar. The following development has been recorded at the most advanced point on this unit:

Block	Point	Elev.	Date	Instars 2nd	3rd	4th
S-11	CP-1	4400	6/4	83%	17%	0
			6/9	65%	35%	0
			6/12	57%	43%	0

In block S-39 at 5200 feet, the larvae have started to enter the slightly swelling buds. In block S-38 at 4700 feet the buds are still quite tight but the bud caps are beginning to loosen.

District III - Johnson Creek Unit: Mr. Poole reports that all of the low areas on the blocks on the western portion of this unit are ahead of similar areas on the eastern portion of the unit. The following collections show the most advanced development in this unit.

Block	Point	Elev.	Date	Instars 2nd	3rd	4th
BB-1	CP-1	3400	6/3	50%	50%	0
			6/12	1%	78%	21%
J-2	Spot	3200	6/11	4%	69%	27%
BB-4	CP-2	3800	6/10	21%	79%	0

Up to about 3500 feet the development of tree growth is about the same in blocks BB-1, J-1, J-2 and in the lower portions of block J-3 it is quite advanced. In the vicinity of Flat Lake, in block BB-3, the buds are still generally tight. At the edge of the spray boundary in this block at 3800 feet the buds of Douglas fir are beginning to swell and on June 10 were 1/2 inch long.

II Probable Start of Spraying Operations

From the evidence at hand, the following dates for the start of spraying operations on District II and III appear certain:

Unit	Probable Start of Operations
Johnson Creek	June 25
Dale Unit	June 28
Starkey Unit	July 1

The starting date for the Santiam Unit is still uncertain; however, it will not be before July 1 and probably not until about July 4. Just as soon as we have an indication on this unit, the Project Director will be advised.

III Additions to the 1953 Project.

Two additions to the State of Oregon portion of the 1953 project have been discussed with the administrative agencies and have been approved. These are as follows:

(1) Dale Unit - An area of about 14,000 acres of "heavy infestation", adjacent to the southwest boundary of the existing unit, has been scouted, mapped and recommended for inclusion in the 1953 project. This area is in the Desolation Creek drainage between Spring, Starveout, Brook, Junkens and Battle Creek. The timber is all publicly owned.

(2) Starkey Unit - An area of slightly over 1000 acres of "moderate infestation" adjacent to the boundary of the existing unit at Frazier Creek has been recommended for inclusion in the 1953 project. It is bounded by Warm Springs and Frazier Creeks and the road along Camas Creek. The timber is largely in public ownership.

More next week.

J. M. Whitacre

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